



# California Department of Veterans Affairs

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## NEWS FOR VETERANS

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### NEWS ABOUT THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA STATE VETERANS CEMETERY

The California Department of Veterans Affairs announces the tentative schedule for construction of the Northern California State Veterans Cemetery by Redding. Projected completion date Veterans Day, 2005.

- July 12, 2004 - CDVA sends in form 424C, original grant pre-applications, and bid tabulation for final grant approval
- August 6, 2004 - Grant approved by USDVA Cemetery Program
- August 23, 2004 - Contract award to general contractor
- September 16, 2004 - Construction begins
- **VETERANS DAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2005 – CEMETERY DEDICATED**

For more information contact Bob Johnson, Capitol Development and Construction Division at 916-653-0240.

### NEWS FROM THE USDVA

#### **USDVA AWARDS GRANTS TO CALIFORNIA VETERANS HOME**

June 4, 2004 - Three grants totaling nearly \$11 million from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA) will enable the Veterans Home of California – Yountville to make major renovations.

"These grants reflect the federal-state partnership that is honoring our commitment to care for the men and women who have served in uniform," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony J. Principi. "This partnership provides a comfortable home for veterans in a time of great personal need."

The grants will pay for up to 65 percent of the cost to renovate the electrical system and the water storage and transmission systems, and to convert a building annex into a unit where veterans with dementia will receive care.

For the new care unit, a USDVA grant for construction and equipment offers \$8.8 million of the total cost of \$15.2 million. USDVA awarded approximately \$888,000 to renovate the water system, a project with a total expected cost of \$1.7 million. And USDVA will contribute \$1.3 million toward the estimated \$2 million cost of the electrical renovation.

Approximately 1,200 veterans live at the Veterans Home of California – Yountville in Napa Valley. The home was founded in 1884 to serve veterans of the Civil War and now serves disabled and elderly veterans of all wars with assisted living facilities and three levels of inpatient health care.

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The VA State Home Program is a partnership between the federal government and the states to acquire, construct or renovate nursing homes, domiciliaries and adult day health care facilities for veterans.

State veterans homes are owned and operated by the states, but VA can provide up to 65 percent of the cost of approved projects. Once construction is complete and inspections are satisfactory, the facilities then qualify for per diem payments from VA.

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## **OTHER NEWS OF INTEREST**

US Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs Gordon Mansfield will speak at the June 12, 2004 Veterans Town Hall Meeting at 11:00 a.m. at the Veterans Museum and Memorial Center, 2115 Park Blvd, San Diego, CA (Old Balboa Navy Chapel).

US Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony J. Principi will be the featured speaker on July 10, 2004 at a Town Hall Meeting at Patriotic Hall in Los Angeles, CA.

The Veterans Journal sponsors both of these events. For more information call 619-233-8978

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